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TO AMEMBASSY MADRID IMMEDIATE

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AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY KAMPALA IMMEDIATE

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AMEMBASSY DAKAR IMMEDIATE

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AMEMBASSY TUNIS IMMEDIATE

RMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM IMMEDIATE

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I O. 12356: DECL OADR

TAGS: PREL, UNSC, SP

SUBJECT: RWANDA WAR CRIMES TRIBUNAL

1. CONFIDENTIAL - ENTIRE TEXT.

2. BEGIN SUMMARY AND ACTION REQUEST. POST IS REQUESTED

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE REVIEW AUTHORITY: ARCHIE M BOLSTER DATE/CASE ID: 18 MAR 2004 200303979

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TO OBTAIN INFORMATION ON A SPANISH LAWYER PROPOSED TO HEAD THE RWANDA WAR CRIMES TRIBUNAL, IF ONE IS ESTABLISHED. END SUMMARY AND ACTION REQUEST.

- 3. A LAWYER IN SPAIN, LEOPOLDO TORPES BOURSAULT, HAS BEEN SUGGESTED AS A POSSIBLE CHIEF PROSECUTOR OF THE RWANDA WAR CRIMES TRIBUNAL, IF ONE IS ESTABLISHED. HE WAS A LAWYER AT THE MADRID BAR SINCE 1965 AND HAS LECTURED AT THE FACULTY OF LAW OF THE UNIVERSITY OF MADRID AND AT THE INSTITUTE OF CRIMINOLOGY. HE ALSO WAS A STATE PROSECUTOR AT THE COURT OF CASSATION.
- 4. POST IS ASKED TO MAKE DISCREET INQUIRIES REGARDING TORRES' REPUTATION AS A LAWYER AND PROSECUTOR, THE NATURE AND DEPTH OF HIS PROSECUTORIAL EXPERIENCE AND HIS GENERAL ABILITY TO RUN A WAR CRIMES TRIBUNAL. WE WOULD ALSO LIKE CONFIDENTIAL

STATE 192051 190340Z PAGE 03 TO KNOW WHETHER TORRES SPEAKS ENGLISH AND HOW WELL HE WOULD WORK WITH THE USG.

3. IN ADDITION, TORRES' RESUME INDICATES THAT HE -WAS ENVOLVED IN MANY TRIALS OF POLITICAL AND TRADE-UNION MILITANTS UNDER THE DICTATORSHIP. " POST IS ASKED TO FIND: OUT WHAT 'CORRES' INVOLVEMENT WAS IN THESE MATTERS AND WHETHER HE WAS ACTING ON BEHALF OF THE ACCUSED. G. PLEASE SLUG REPLIES FOR L - C. NIX AND L/UNA - E. BLOOM. TALBOTT

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